

POWERING GENDER EQUITY

Advancing the Roles of Women & Girls in the African Energy Sector

Advancing the full participation of women and girls in the political, economic, and social realms of their countries is a key goal of U.S. foreign policy. As such, Power Africa seeks to support projects, programs, and policies that intentionally strive to reduce gender inequalities and promote the effective engagement of both men and women in Africa's energy sector.

Power Africa's approach to gender integration involves meeting the energy needs of the underserved, while creating opportunities for women throughout the energy value chain. By taking a sector-wide approach to gender integration, Power Africa aims to create a more responsive and ultimately more sustainable energy landscape in Africa.

Gender integration within this sector not only creates immediate opportunities for women, but also strengthens a sector that supports better healthcare, education, and entrepreneurship.

Power Africa Gender Equity Goals

- Increase women's participation in energy sector policy development and project planning processes.
- Increase consideration of gender issues in design of energy sector policies and projects.
- Increase women's participation in the energy sector workforce.
- Increase women's access to energy services.

Women in African Power

Power Africa's Women in African Power (WIAP) network recognizes the vital role that women play in the African energy sector, and great potential the energy sector holds for women. The women who lead in this sector present business and mentoring opportunities that can help other women reach the highest levels of organizations, and help some of the poorest women in Africa connect to opportunities that generations before them never had.

WIAP is an inclusive network that connects CEOs and African Ministers of Energy to young women studying electrical engineering and women selling solar lanterns in remote villages by providing a regional platform for networking, information exchange, professional mentorship, and exposure to new business opportunities. Our hope is that WIAP will create opportunities for women in a male-dominated sector.



Women in Kenya learn about solar panel installation and maintenance at a USAID/Power Africa-sponsored training. (Photo: Ambika Adhikari, courtesy VOTEC/Strathmore University)

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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